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REMARKS

Claims 12-14 and 26 were indicated as allowable in the Office Action; by this amendment, independent claim 1 is rewritten to include the limitations of claim 12 (including limitations of the intervening claims), and independent claim 20 is rewritten to include the limitations of claim 26 (including limitations of the intervening claims). Independent claim 15 is also rewritten to add corresponding new limitations including (among other limitations) the limitation (i.e., the countdown delay time is decreased by a predetermined amount each time a fire command is issued) noted in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Indication of Allowable Subject Matter. Also, claims 3, 4, and 10-12 are canceled, and new dependent claims 27-31 are added. Support for the new claims is found at ¶24 (p.8) and ¶67 (pp.36-37) of the specification as filed.

It is respectfully submitted that allowance is now appropriate. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if desired.

Respectfully submitted,

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